

CRANSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

MARCH 17, 2014

WESTERN HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL

400 PHENIX AVENUE, CRANSTON, RI 02920

EXECUTIVE SESSION – 6:00 P.M.

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWED BY PUBLIC MEETING

MINUTES

The School Committee meeting was held on the evening of the above date in the auditorium of Western Hills Middle School with the following members present: Chairperson Iannazzi, Mrs. McFarland, Mr. Traficante, Mr. Colford, Mr. Gale, Mrs. Culhane and Mrs. Ruggieri. Attorney Cascione was present for executive Session. Mrs. Ruggieri was absent during executive session.

1. Call to order- 6:00 p.m. Convene to Executive Session pursuant to RI State Laws -

2. PL 42-46-5(a)(1) Personnel:

3. PL 42-46-5(a)(2) Collective Bargaining:

A. Contract Negotiations' Update(s)=

B. (Secretaries)

C. (Teachers)

D. (Teacher Assistants)

E. (Bus Drivers, Mechanics)

F. (Tradespeople)

G. (Custodians)

4. PL 42-46-5(3)

A. District Safety Plan

B. Discussion of Buildings Report

Called to Order at 6:30 p.m. – Public Session

The roll was called; there was a quorum present

Executive Session Minutes Sealed – Ms. Iannazzi stated that no votes were taken in Executive Session. Moved by Mr. Traficante; seconded by Mrs. Culhane. The roll was called; all were in favor.

Minutes of Previous Meetings Approved – February 10 and February 17, 2014. Moved by Mr. Traficante; seconded by Mrs. Culhane. The roll was called; all were in favor.

Public Acknowledgements/Communications: None

Chairperson's Communications – None.

Superintendent's Communications

Dr. Lundsten stated - Good evening. I would like to mention a few things. The youngsters at Cranston High School West and Cranston High School East had a wonderful weekend with cheerleading where they made it to the finals and placed first in State competitions. They are going on to the regionals next Saturday in Lawrence, Massachusetts. The Drama Club at Cranston High School West participated in the Drama Festival, they placed first. They will now move on to New England Regional's in April. I had the pleasure of seeing them and they were absolutely wonderful. Also, over the weekend the ice hockey co-op team at Cranston East and Cranston West played. It was the best of three. They won one and lost one and will be back tomorrow night at 7:00 p.m. I stopped by yesterday afternoon. It was a great event. Everyone had a wonderful time and I encourage folks to support them tomorrow night. Last week, I was at the State House where teachers were honored in both the House of Representatives as well as the Senate. It was a lovely ceremony and I was so proud to be there with them. Finally, it is time to update the teacher's plans and keep everyone informed where we are with that. I have documents that will be posted on our website for the community to see. That's all. Thank you.

School Committee Member Communications – None

Public Hearing

a. Students (Agenda/Non-Agenda Matters)

Cole Arena, a student at Hope Highlands spoke about being in favor of House Bill #7829

b. Members of the Public (Agenda Matters Only) – None

Consent Calendar/Consent Agenda

Chairperson Iannazzi spoke on the Consent Agenda for Resolutions 14-3-2, 14-3-3, 14-3-4, 14-3-5, 14-3-6, 14-3-7, 14-3-8, 14-3-9, 14-3-10, 14-3-11, 14-3-12, 14-3-19, 14-3-20, 14-3-21 and 14-3-22. Moved by Mr. Traficante; Seconded by Mr. Gale. The roll was called; all were in favor.

Action Calendar/Action Agenda

RESOLUTIONS

Sponsored by the Janice Ruggieri

NO. 14-3-1- Whereas, students from all over Rhode Island auditioned to participate in the 2014 Rhode Island Music Educators Association All-State Ensembles , and

Whereas, students from the Cranston Public Schools have distinguished themselves as musicians for their selection to and participation in the 2014 Rhode Island Music Educators Association

All-State Ensembles, and

Whereas, the following fine musicians will perform with the All-State Ensembles on Sunday, March 23, 2014, at the Veterans Memorial Auditorium in Providence:

Be it RESOLVED, that the Cranston School Committee extend its congratulations to all of these students:

Junior Division All-State Concert Band: Eleanor Trimm; Junior Division All-State Symphonic Band: Lia Dietrich; Junior Division All-State Jazz Ensemble: Ryan Sullivan; Junior Division All-State Orchestra: Matthew Fryer, Angelina Gudoshnik, Laney Kong, Jacob Meyerson and Alex Norberg.; Junior Division All-State Treble Chorus: Theresa Brown, Maguire Collins, Madeleine DePardo, Mackenzie Blake, Carrie Minassian, and Lauren St. Jean; Junior Division All-State Mixed Chorus: Savanna Lincoln, Charles Pisaturo and Victoria Soucy.

Senior Division Women's Chorus: Danielle Dottor, Angelia Field and Briana Stewart; Senior Division All-State Mixed Chorus: Neni Benzan, Vincent Brooks, Jeffrey Guardado, Kristen Huettemann, Dashesky Pena and Jahaziel Zapata; Senior Division All-State Band: Taylor Koretsky and David Rainone; Senior Division All-State Orchestra: Alina Joharjian, Jessica Leung, Andrew Oung, Ted Paola, Emma Paolella, Vladimir Vezikov and Peter Xiong.

Be it further RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution signed by the members of the Cranston School Committee be presented to each successful student

Motion was made to move said Resolution to the end of the meeting to allow for Students to arrive. Moved by Mrs. McFarland; Seconded by Mr. Traficante. The roll was called; all were in favor.

Motion was made to table this matter to the April meeting; Moved by Mrs. Ruggieri; Seconded by Mrs. Culhane; the roll was called; all were in favor.

PERSONNEL

NO 14-3-2 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following certified staff member be granted a leave of absence without compensation as provided in Article XIX, Section F of the Master Agreement between the Cranston School Committee and the Cranston Teachers' Alliance:

Helen Jones, Teacher

Cranston East

Effective Date...August, 2014 to August 31, 2015

NO 14-3-3 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the

Superintendent, the following certified staff member be granted a leave of absence without compensation as provided in Article XIX, Section B.4 of the Master Agreement between the Cranston School Committee and the Cranston Teachers' Alliance:

Lisa Reed, Teacher

Arlington

Effective Date...June 2014 to August 2015

NO 14-3-4 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation(s) of the following certified personnel be accepted:

Rachel Knowlton, Teacher

Cranston East

Effective Date...March 7, 2014

NO 14-3-5 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following individual(s) be appointed as an athletic coach:

Clem Soscia, Assistant Coach Girls' Outdoor Track

CHSW

Step-7

Class-D

Paying Competition-High School/College

Experience-Assistant Coach Girls' Indoor Track

Certification-RI Coaches Certification; CPR/AED/First Aid

Michael Soscia, Head Coach Girls' Lacrosse

CHSW

Step-7

Class-B

Playing Competition-High School & College

Experience- Former Cranston West Head Coach Girls' Lacrosse

Certification-RI Coaches Certification; CPR\AED\First Aid

Michael Boyajian, Head Coach Boys' Tennis

CHSW

Step-7

Class-B

Playing Competition-High School & College

Experience-Cranston East Girls' Tennis Coach

Certification-RI Coaches Certification; CPR\AED\First Aid

Kayla Cilley, Assistant Coach Girls' Softball

CHSE

Step-3

Class-C

Playing Competition-High School\College

Experience-Cranston East Assistant Coach Field Hockey

Certification-RI Coaches Certification; CPR\AED\First Aid

Jeremy Scherer, Head Coach Girls' Soccer

CHSW

Step-7

Class-B

Playing Competition-High School

Experience-Several Levels

Certification-RI Coaches Certification; CPR\AED\First Aid

NO 14-3-6 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following individual(s) be reappointed as an athletic coach:

Cranston High School East

Michael Walsh- Head Baseball Coach

Raymond Rotondo- Assistant Baseball Coach

Robert Labanca-Head Girls' Outdoor Track Coach

Dina Cesana-Assistant Girls' Outdoor Track Coach

Robert Bouchard- Head Boys' Outdoor Track Coach

Carl Bishop-Assistant Boys' Outdoor Track Coach

Paul Bessette- Head Girls' Softball Coach

Richard Perrotta, Head Boys' Tennis Coach

James Creamer, Head Boys' Lacrosse Coach

Matthew Davis, Assistant Boys' Lacrosse Coach

Thomas Ferri, Head Boys' Volleyball Coach

Howard Chun, Head Girls' Lacrosse Coach
Scott Maynard, Assistant Girls' Lacrosse Coach
Michael Rachiele, Head Unified Basketball Coach
John Palumbo, Head Coed Golf Coach

Cranston High School West

Rob Malo- Head Boys' Baseball Coach
Corey Capirchio-Assistant Boys' Baseball Coach
Jeff Smith-Head Girls' Softball Coach
David Kenneally, Assistant Girls' Softball Coach
Keith Croft-Head Boys' Outdoor Track Coach
Thomas Aronne, Assistant Boys' Outdoor Track Coach
Chris Sullivan-Head Coed Golf Coach
Joseph Salimeno, Assistant Coed Golf Coach
Sheila Lagasse-Head Girls' Outdoor Track Coach
Jaime Ferretti- Assistant Girls' Lacrosse Coach
Jared Zimmer, Head Boys' Lacrosse Coach
Michael Boyajian, Jr. Assistant Boys' Lacrosse Coach
James Lucas- Assistant Boys' Tennis Coach
Roger Tow, Head Boys' Volleyball Coach
Ralph Sacco, Assistant Boys' Volleyball Coach
Matthew Reis, Head Unified Basketball Coach

NO 14-3-7 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following individuals be appointed as volunteer coaches:

Cranston High School West

Fallon Scorpio/Softball

NO 14-3-8 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation of the following coach (es) be accepted:

Gerard Marzilli, Assistant Coach Boys' Basketball

Cranston West

Effective date...February 27, 2014

NO. 14-3-9 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified personnel be appointed:

Janet Caramadre, Teacher Assistant

Glen Hills

Effective Date...February 24, 2014

Authorization...Replacement

Fiscal Note...12846020 51110

Susan Hartley, Confidential Executive Administrative Assistant

School Committee

Effective Date...February 26, 2014

Authorization...Replacement

Fiscal Note... 1956200 51110

Danielle Lavoie, Site Coordinator

Bain + 2

Effective Date...March 10, 2014

Authorization...Replacement

Fiscal Note...82815150 51308

Janet DelSanto, CNA Instructor

CACTC

Effective Date...March 8, 2014

Authorization...New

Fiscal Note...519741110 51111

Sheree Bailey, Assistant Site Coordinator

Kidsventure (Gladstone)

Effective Date...March 10, 2014

Authorization...Replacement

Fiscal Note...51719151 51308

John Gallagher, Bus Driver

Transportation

Effective Date...March 17, 2014

Authorization...Replacement

Fiscal Note...12645190 51110

NO 14-3-10 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified staff member be granted a leave of absence without compensation as provided in Article X, Section C of the Master Agreement between the Cranston School Committee and the Cranston Teachers' Alliance:

Deborah Leavitt, Bus Aide

Transportation

Effective Date...March 21, 2014 to August 31, 2014

NO 14-3-11 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the retirement(s) of the following non-certified personnel be accepted:

Esta Avedisian, Teacher Assistant

Park View

Effective Date...June 30, 2014

Dr. Lundsten stated - Tonight we have one retiree, Esta Avedisian, who is sitting there in the back. It is my understanding she was a teacher assistant for 16 years at Park View and was a wonderful employee. We wish her the very best. She was a loyal employee and

we will certainly miss her.

NO 14-3-12 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation(s) of the following non-certified personnel be accepted:

Vanida Phrathep, Site Coordinator

Bain + 2

Effective Date...February 21, 2014

Jose Adames, Bus Driver

Transportation

Effective Date...February 24, 2014

Beth Bruneau, Teacher Assistant

Hope Highlands

Effective Date...April 2, 2014

BUSINESS

NO 14-3-13 RESOLVED, that the Five-Year Capital Budget plan which begins in the 2014-2015 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent, be approved.

A motion was made to withdraw this deny. Moved by Mrs. McFarland; seconded by Mr. Traficante. The roll was called; Mr. Colford – No;

Mrs. Culhane – Yes; Mr. Gale – Yes; Mrs. McFarland – Yes; Mrs. Ruggieri – Yes; Mr. Traficante – Yes; Ms. Iannazzi – Yes.

NO 14-3-14 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Cranston School Committee accepts the school districts 2012-2013 Financial Audit as presented in the Auditor's report for the year ended June 30, 2012.

A Motion was made to approve. Moved by Mr. Traficante; Seconded by Mrs. McFarland. Ms. Iannazzi asked if there any discussions.

Mr. Balducci stated - I did ask the Mr. Raymond Celona, Senior Manager, Marcum LLP to be in attendance this evening so if there are any questions that hopefully between me and him, we could have those questions answered.

Ms. Iannazzi asked if there were any more discussions. There being none. The roll was called; all were in favor.

NO 14-3-15 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Cranston School Committee accepts the school districts 2012-2013 Federal Single Audit for the year ended June 30, 2012.

A Motion to approve was made. Moved by Mr. Traficante; Seconded by Mrs. Ruggieri. The roll was called; all were in favor.

NO 14-3-16 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Cranston School Committee accepts the school district's Letter of Observation and Recommendations (Management Letter) for the year ended June 30, 2013.

A Motion to approve was made. Moved by Mr. Traficante; Seconded by Mrs. Culhane.

Ms. Iannazi asked if there were any discussions.

Mr. Traficante stated - I know the requirements were expanded of the order of procedure, can you give us a quick synopsis of how the School Department stands regarding that Management Letter

Mr. Raymond Celona, Senior Manager, Marcum LLP spoke on the Management Letter

Ms. Iannazzi asked if there were any further discussion. There being none the roll was called; all were in favor.

NO 14-3-17 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Cranston School Committee accepts the school district's Communication of Matters Prescribed by Statement of Auditing Standards #114 for the year ended June 30, 2013.

Motion to approve was made. Moved by Mr. Gale; Seconded by Mrs. Culhane. Ms. Iannazzi asked if there were any discussions. There being none the roll was called; all were in favor.

NO 14-3-18 RESOLVED, that the 2014-2105 Capital Budget, as recommended by the Superintendent, be approved:

Motion to approve was made. Moved by Mrs. McFarland; Seconded by Mrs. Ruggieri.

Ms. Iannazzi asked if there were any discussions.

Mr. Traficante stated - he just wanted to remind the committee that this remaining authority would wipe out any and all monies that we have for repair and renovation. If the council of course were to go to market that would leave us with exactly \$250,000 for asset protection and of that \$250,000, \$200,000 is earmarked for safety matters, correct?

Dr. Lundsten stated - No, not for that. That is separate.

Mr. Balducci stated -The School Committee adopted a budget for next year for \$250,000 for asset protection; \$50,000 which is coming from the Operations Committee budget each year and \$200,000 for the Superintendent to begin addressing safety issues in all the schools.

Mr. Traficante stated – so we have \$450,000 put aside?

Mr. Balducci stated - that once this 1.3 million bond authorization is exhausted, then we will no longer have the capability to use the bond dollars except for the one we have now so we will have to use the Operational dollars to address the issues.

Ms. Iannazzi asked if there were any discussions. There being none the roll was called; all were in favor.

PURCHASED AND PURCHASED SERVICES

RESOLVED, that the following purchases be approved:

NO 14-3-19 District-wide internet services and participation in the E-rate reimbursement process be approved for OSHEAN as our service provider for the 2014-2015 year at a cost of \$60,000 of which approximately \$37,800 will be reimbursed by e-rate.

NO 14-3-20 Be it RESOLVED to accept the Rhode Island Department of Education Wireless Classroom Grant Agreement. This grant will award the NEL and CPS Construction and Career Academy a total of \$30,381.85 and is to be used to create a districtwide wireless classroom solution.

NO 14-3-21 Be it further RESOLVED to accept the proposed solution

submitted by ePlus Technology, Inc., Cisco/Meraki. ePlus Technology, Inc. who will be the Cranston Public Schools' vendor for the implementation of this grant.

POLICY AND PROGRAM

NO 14-3-22 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent the following field trip(s) of long duration/conference(s) be authorized:

1. Joseph Balducci, Chief Financial Officer, to travel to San Diego, California from May 8-May 9, 2014 to attend the 2014 NLC-RISC Trustees Conference at no cost to the School Department. All expenses will be paid for by the Rhode Island Inter-Local Risk Management Trust Organization. Please see the attached conference form and back up information.

2. Michele Simpson, Acting Director, Pupil Personnel Services, to travel to Lake Buena Vista, Florida May 4-May 7, 2014 to attend 35th LRP Annual Institute on legal issues of Education Individuals with Disabilities. All expenses will be paid for by IDEA Grant. Please see attached conference and registration form.

3. Sandi Matoian-Heard, Special Education Administrator, to travel to Lake Buena Vista, Florida May 4-May 7, 2014 to attend 35th LRP Annual Institute on legal issues of Education Individuals with

Disabilities. All expenses will be paid for by IDEA Grant. Please see attached conference and registration form.

4. Lisa Abbott, Special Education Administrator, to travel to Lake Buena Vista, Florida May 4-May 7, 2014 to attend 35th LRP Annual Institute on legal issues of Education Individuals with Disabilities. All expenses will be paid for by IDEA Grant. Please see attached conference and registration form.

NO 14-3-23 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the 2014-2015 School Calendar be adopted.

Motion was made to table this matter to the June 16, 2014 meeting. Moved by Mr. Traficante; Seconded by Mrs. Ruggieri; the roll was called; all were in favor.

Mrs. Iannazzi called for a recess for 10 minutes to wait for the students to arrive.

5. Public Hearing on Non-Agenda Items

Suzanne Arena spoke in support of House Bill No. 7829

6. Announcement of Future Meeting(s) – April 9 and April 14, 2014

7. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Colford; seconded by Mr. Traficante. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula B.M. McFarland

Clerk